FOCUS ON INDIANA LIBRARIES

Published by the Indiana Library Association in the interests of its members and its work

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INDIANA 8 1950 LIBRARY

ILA, ILTA COMMITTEES NAMED

Following the first Executive Board meeting of the 1950 I.L.A. and I.L.T.A. officers the following committee appointments were announced:

District Meetings

Lena B. Nofcier, State Library, *Chairman*
Lucille H. Simpson, LaPorte
Elizabeth Hayden, South Bend
Beatrice Paton, Evansville
John R. May, Anderson High School Librarian
Mrs. Dan Quickel, Anderson (Trustee)

Federal Relations Coordinator

(State Representative with ALA)

Jack B. Spear, Gary

Legislative Committee

Esther Thornton, Indianapolis Public Library *Chairman*
Cecil Byrd, Indiana University, Bloomington
Arnold Rosaaen, Evansville
Caroline Dunn, Wm. Henry Smith Memorial Library, Indianapolis
Mrs. Marie Burris, Washington (Trustee)
Mrs. Russell Cushman, Fortville (Trustee)
Paul R. Benson, New Castle (Trustee)
Mrs. W. H. Frazier, Nashville (Trustee)

Library Action Committee

Harriet Carter, Elkhart, *Chairman*
Marcella Foote, Connersville
Mary Louise Mann, Arsenal Technical High School, Indianapolis
James H. Richards, Earlham College, Richmond
Mrs. Rex Murray, Kewanna (Trustee)
Mrs. Irene Strieby, Lilly Laboratories Library, Indianapolis
Mrs. Martha Schaaf, Lilly Laboratories Library, alternate

Public Relations Committee

Marjorie Wood, State Library, *Chairman*
Katherine L. Croxall, South Bend

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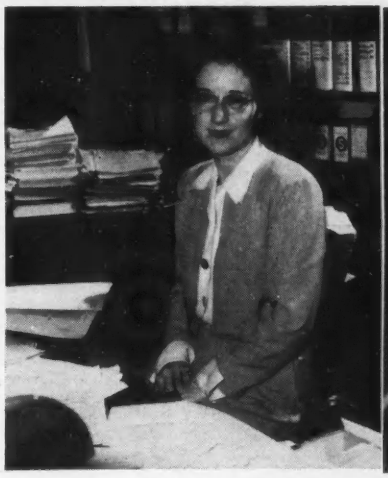

I.L.A. OFFICERS, 1949-50

Upper left, Harriet E. Bard, president; upper right, Harold J. Sander, vice-president; lower left, Elizabeth Burton, secretary; lower right, Lois M. Ringo, treasurer.

Gala ALA Midwinter Meeting Hits Attendance Peak

Exactly 200 more librarians registered for the 1950 A.L.A. Midwinter Meeting at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, January 26-29, than were present in 1949. 1640 persons registered for the meeting, topping last year's record high.

The Windy City ran the gamut of climatic change. Preconference visitors sweltered indoors and clutched hats wildly outdoors. By Sunday earmuffs and mufflers were a must.

High spots of the general meetings were the report of the Committee on A.L.A. Reorganization, an evening discussion devoted to loyalty oaths and investigations, and first hand accounts of recent visits to libraries abroad.

President Milton E. Lord, chairman of an ex-officio committee set up at the 1949 Midwinter Meeting for the purpose of presenting Part II of the Fourth Activities Committee Report, returned the Report to the Council with recommendations. The ex-officio committee recommended adoption of certain recommendations of the Report, rejection of others and referral of a third group to special committees of the Council for further study. Its work completed, the committee was discharged.

Margaret C. Scoggin of the New York Public Library, Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress, and Milton E. Lord, Boston Public Library, carried the burden of Saturday evening's program, speaking on "Journies to Libraries Abroad."

Indiana librarians were represented by Mary J. Cain of the Indianapolis Public Library, speaking on the Needs in Books for Young People at a luncheon meeting of the Young People's Librarians Association and by John H. Moriarty of Purdue University at a Serials Round Table.

(Continued on page 4)

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FOCUS ON INDIANA LIBRARIES

A Publication of the
INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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HAROLD J. SANDER, Business Library, Indianapolis____Vice President
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Indianapolis Public Library

VOLUME IV FEBRUARY, 1950 NUMBER 1

NEW PREXY CALLS FOR RENEWED ENTHUSIASM

It would be possible to editorialize at length on the importance of the work of the various committees of the Indiana Library Association. The Action Committee has made its findings and needs now to go ahead with its recommendations. Profiting by experience with the 1949 General Assembly, the Legislative Committee is beginning a program of concern to every one of us. Staff shortages being common to us all, the work of the Recruiting Committee is a basic need. A good public relations program is as essential to the association as to each local library.

But fundamental to all our work as individual librarians and as an association is the need to sell the idea to more people that reading is fun. We may say it in any way we wish, we may accomplish it in any way we choose, but if we are successful, will we not be making progress toward all our goals?

Will not more readers mean that we can ask and receive greater financial support? Will we not automatically be able to carry out more and more of the plans we told the Action Committee in their survey that we want to see develop? If more of our young people find out that reading is fun, might it not allow that more of them would become librarians?

You say that interesting people in reading is what you have been doing all the time? Splendid! Let's work in 1950 toward that end with renewed enthusiasm.

Harriet E. Bard,
President, I.L.A.

Sitting Duck

If Hal Sander could head his parting note *Swan Song,* your new editor feels free to caption his first note *Sitting Duck.*

This is a lonesome pond, so this is an invitation for all of you to get in the swim. Any or all contributions will be welcome. A fair distribution of news items and space limitations will be the only restrictions. If you publish a bulletin, a copy will be most welcome. A postal card will take a timely news item.

Kindly address comments, contributions or complaints to:

Editor, Focus
Mishawaka Public Library
Mishawaka, Indiana

Hal has done such a fine job with Focus that he leaves us with high standards to maintain. Fortunately, we do retain him in an advisory capacity.

ISLA PLANS CONFERENCE

Edith I. Chalfant of Hartford City, President of the Indiana School Librarians Association, promises a cordial welcome to anyone interested in school library work at the Association's conference to be held March 24-25 at Ball State Teachers College, Muncie.

Miss Frances Henne, Associate Dean and Assistant Professor in the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, will speak for an eleven o'clock convocation on Friday. At the Saturday luncheon Miss Henne will speak again on "Reading Guidance for What?"

Friday afternoon will be devoted to a discussion on recent books for young people by Miss Margaret C. Rehring, Librarian, Withrow High School, Cincinnati, Ohio, and to audio-visual materials.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For Indiana librarians "who care enough to send the very best" Focus wishes to express a very *Happy Birthday* to the State Library and its staff.

Unfortunately, this first 1950 issue was not set up early enough to include the pre-birthday announcement and invitation.

Librarians and interested persons from all over the state were invited to attend an open house from 1:00 until 6:00 P.M. on February 15, the date of the 125th anniversary celebration.

This occasion has been an excellent opportunity for librarians all over the state to tender appreciation for the assistance and cooperation rendered by the State Library and staff.

SLA DIRECTORY

Response to a need expressed by the Action Committee at the 1949 I.L.A. Conference has not been slow in coming from the Indiana Chapter of the Special Libraries Association. *SLANT,* the Indiana bulletin of the S.L.A. has published a special issue including a directory of Special Libraries in the Indiana Chapter.

Classified according to subject specialty, the directory lists business, hospital and nursing, museum, newspaper, science technology (including biological sciences) social science, transportation, university and college libraries, other specialties, miscellaneous, public and high school libraries.

Here and There

Governor Henry F. Schricker has appointed Miss Audrey Benner, President of the Board of Trustees at Elkhart, to the Library Certification Board.

Mrs. E. A. Carpenter of Goshen, whom Miss Benner succeeds, has served as a member of the Board since its inception in 1941.

* * * * * *

Redding Township is being added to territory served by the Seymour Public Library, Kathryn Frazee announces. The library will now be serving three townships in Jackson County.

* * * * * *

Based on nursery school technique, a pre-school age story hour is being operated in the South Bend branch system. Katherine Croxall is responsible for the four story hours held each week for children from three to five. Attendance varies from 15 to 45 children.

* * * * * *

School librarians of Indiana serving in positions in the American Association of School Librarians are Margaret Turk, Wiley High School, Terre Haute, chairman of the nominating committee of A.A.S.L., Mary Isabelle Wood, Tudor Hall High School, Indianapolis, state membership chairman, and Mary Louise Mann, Arsenal Technical High School, Indianapolis, member of A.A.S.L.'s statistics committee.

Nine of twelve groups possible in the parent association are represented in Indiana's S.L.A. membership.

ILA, ILTA COMMITTEES *(Continued from page 1)*

Mrs. Mabel Walker, Stewart-Warner Corp., Indianapolis
(School librarian member to be announced)

Recruiting Committee

Dan A. Williams, Muncie, *Chairman*
Amanda Browning, Indiana State Teachers College Library, Terre Haute
Mary Louise Fitton, Hanover College, Hanover
Esther V. Burrin, Dir. for School Libraries, State Dept. of Education, Indianapolis
Inez M. Paul, South Bend
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Burton, U.S. Naval Ordnance Plant, Indianapolis

Retirement and Pensions Committee

Florence Bennett, South Bend,
Mrs. Herbert C. Sears, Danville (Trustee)
Marie Peters, Indianapolis Public Library

Small Library Problems

Mrs. Hazel M. Andres, Batesville
Pauline Simmons, Tipton
Marie Stouder, Goshen
Mrs. R. O. Bertsch, Cambridge City (Trustee)

Membership Committee

Lois Ringo, Anderson, *Chairman*
Clara Sturgis, Bluffton
Mrs. Alta Griffith, LaPorte
Esther Schlundt, Purdue University, Lafayette
Gertrude Crouch, Fortville High School

Only the Trustee Citation Committee remains to be named.

DUES DUN

A rough estimate of the total number of librarians in Indiana would indicate that there are approximately 1,400. The membership report for 1949 shows a total of 547 members in the Indiana Library Association. Public libraries furnish 407 of this figure, high schools 38, college and universities 56, special libraries 38 and an additional 7 are unclassified. Where are the remaining 800?

You will not receive your state association publication, FOCUS, if you are not an active member of I.L.A. Join now and get the benefit of this newsy little paper for the entire year. You cannot afford to be without it. And if you are professionally minded, you certainly want to have a part in your state organization.

You will receive your notice for dues in a few days, but you need not wait for it. Send your $1.50 to me now.

Lois M. Ringo,
Treasurer, Ind. Lib. Assn.

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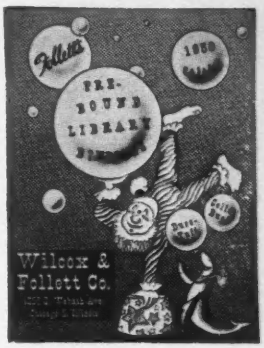

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BOOK WEEK PROMOTION

Loneta Englebert and Deed Brookbank made two thousand bookmarks by pasting the back strips from book jackets on white cardboard strips. Additional bookmarks were made by cutting out the titles on the front of the jackets, and very attractive marks were made by combining these with various pictures cut from the jackets.

Three sizes of cardboard strips were purchased from a job printer. These were cut 8¾ by 2 inches, 8 by 2 inches, and 8¾ by 1½ inches. Most of the titles could be attractively fitted to one of the three sizes.

A stamp saying

I Visited
CONNERSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
Book Week

was put on the back of each bookmark.

As classes and Scout troops visited the library during Book Week, each visitor was given an appropriate bookmark. These served not only to mark the reader's place but also reminded him of the library and publicized the books available.

Library of the month is sponsored by
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ALA Trustee Citations

Again the A.L.A. Jury on Citation of Trustees announces that it wishes recommendations for the annual citation of Trustees for the year 1950. Nominations for citation of trustees must be in not later than March 15, 1950. Recommendations, with supporting evidence should be sent to Jury on Citation of Trustees, A.L.A. Headquarters, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago (11), Illinois.

After a trial period of three years, upon recommendation of the Jury on Citation of Trustees, the A.L.A. Council at its meeting on October 13, 1944, unanimously voted to continue annual citations.

Those who may send in names to be considered are: Library Boards, Individual Library Trustees, State Library Extension Agencies, State Library Associations or the A.L.A. Trustees Division.

The work of trustees of large and small libraries in state and national library activities as well as service for the local library are given equal study and consideration.

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES BARGAIN

Of special concern to Indiana librarians is the Third Annual Conference on Adult Education to be held on the Indiana University campus at Bloomington, March 16 and 17. Sponsored jointly by Indiana and Purdue Universities, the general conference will have as its theme "Enlisting Community Support for Adult Education."

A tentative program indicates that three groups of panel-forums will be run simultaneously, all on the same subject.

Various media for enlisting community support for adult education have been broken down into four groups, each to be the subject of a panel discussion.

With the emphasis on *how to use* these media, librarians, librarians of public libraries in particular, should gain insight into effective public relations programs for their communities.

Included in the registration fee of $2.00, payable at the Indiana Memorial Union Building, will be a ticket for the Jordan River Revue to be presented the evening of March 16.

INDIANA NEEDS COUNCILLORS

Article IV, section 1, (a) of the By-laws of the American Library Association says, "each state shall elect one councillor for its first 50 A.L.A. members or less, and one additional councillor for each 250 A.L.A. members in excess of 50."

These councillors are your voice in A.L.A. It is very probable with the I.L.A. membership figure at 547, that Indiana will not have even two councillors in A.L.A. If we do, we must have librarians who are members of A.L.A. and not the Indiana Library Association. Surely interest in your state organization is also important.

This is the beginning of a new year. Why not start it in good standing with both professional associations?

* * * * * *

Looking ahead to the joint meeting of I.L.A. and I.L.T.A.? Plan your schedule now for November 2, 3, and 4.

Response to the plea from A.L.A. for a contribution toward the support of a full-time Washington, D.C. office was a pledge of $100.00 made by I.L.A.'s Executive Board.

MIDWINTER MEETING *(Continued from page 1)*

During the preconference meeting on standardization of bookmobiles it was announced by Mr. Cory that the Library Demonstration Bill has been reported on favorably by the House Education and Labor Committee following consideration by the full committee. The identical bill was reported out of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare committee more than a year ago.

Programs of exchanging state association bulletins, discussed at a Presidents and Editors Round Table, were complicated by the fact that limited operating budgets prevent a wide distribution of free copies of state association publications. Not all states, unlike Indiana, support two publications, a news letter published by the state association and a bulletin published by a state agency.

Among interesting facts picked up at the meeting was one put forward by a librarian from Missouri. Standard equipment in a bookmobile operated in the back country of Missouri must include an axe for cutting down trees. Small trees are used to free bookmobiles from the mud of flooded river bottoms.

Allemande left and do-si-do set the tone of the lighter side of the meeting during square dancing following the evening sessions of Friday and Saturday.

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